

Welcome to the Third Series of the *Japanese Journal of Mathematics*

Yasuo Morita (Former President of the Mathematical Society of Japan)

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The third series of the *Japanese Journal of Mathematics* (JJM) got off to a great start in the spring of 2006. The first volume contains splendid research survey articles by V. I. Arnold; S. Iyanaga; S. Gindikin; L. Illusie; A. De Sole and V. G. Kac; and B. Roynette, P. Vallois, and M. Yor in its first issue, followed by K.-H. Neeb in its second issue. I would like to congratulate JJM for overcoming the 2005 crisis of discontinuance and starting its third series in an outstanding form.

JJM was founded in 1924. In its first series, JJM was published annually from 1924 until 1974 by the National Research Council of Japan and its successor, the Science Council of Japan. JJM was renewed as the “New Series” (second series) in 1975. In its second series (1975–2005), JJM published excellent articles, mostly upon the recommendation of fourteen supporting journals in Japan, in cooperation of the Kinokuniya Company Ltd. Above all, the *Journal of the Mathematical Society of Japan* recommended long articles to JJM.

After 30 years of the second series, the Kinokuniya Company Ltd. decided to stop publishing JJM in 2005. The board of the Mathematical Society of Japan established a working group to study the problem. After discussion over several months, we decided to relaunch JJM as an official journal of the Mathematical Society of Japan that publishes research survey articles exclusively.

In its third series (beginning in 2006), JJM publishes research survey articles of the highest scientific quality, which is maintained by the peer-review process. We appointed five relatively young, very active Japanese mathematicians as new editors of the series and came to an agreement with Springer to relaunch the third series of JJM with the new editorial board. As a result of the sincere efforts

Y. MORITA

Mathematical Institute, Tohoku University, Aoba, Sendai 980-8578, Japan
(e-mail: morita@math.tohoku.ac.jp)

of the editors and Springer, we are happy to celebrate the successful debut of the third series in 2006.

The Mathematical Society of Japan (MSJ) has established the Takagi Lectures as research survey lectures at the highest level for a wide range of mathematicians by the finest contemporary mathematicians. The lectures have been named in honor of Teiji Takagi (1875-1960), the creator of Class Field Theory and the father of modern mathematical research in Japan. MSJ will invite distinguished mathematicians from around the world every year to deliver lectures that are intelligible to nonspecialists and to contribute survey papers for JJM based on the lectures. The first Takagi Lectures will take place on November 25-26, 2006, in Kyoto. JJM will also welcome individual submissions of research survey articles of the highest quality.

In its third series, JJM has a mission to promote the future progress and creation of mathematics through research survey articles full of new insights. We hope that JJM will continue its contribution to further developments in mathematics.